

**Amendments to the Specification**

**Please replace the paragraph spanning page 4, line 30- page 5, line 5, with the following replacement paragraph:**

--One embodiment of the invention is a compound of Formula Ia and Ib wherein, R<sub>1</sub> is selected from linear, branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl group, or cyclic C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl group wherein the linear or branched alkyl group may be substituted or interrupted with a cyclic C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl or cyclic C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene group or with a phenyl or phenylene group; and wherein the cyclic alkyl or cyclic alkylene group or the phenyl or phenylene group is further substituted by 0, 1, 2, or 3 methyl groups; and R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are hydrogen.--

**Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 11-15, with the following replacement paragraph:**

--a) R<sub>1</sub> is a linear or branched C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>11</sub>-alkyl group, or cyclic C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>11</sub>-alkyl group wherein the linear or branched alkyl group may be substituted or interrupted with a cyclic C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl or cyclic C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene group or with a phenyl or phenylene group; and wherein the cyclic alkyl or cyclic alkylene group or the phenyl or phenylene group is further substituted by 0, 1, 2, or 3 methyl groups;--

**Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 17-21, with the following replacement paragraph:**

--b) R<sub>1</sub> is a linear, branched or cyclic C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>-alkyl group, wherein the linear or branched alkyl group may be substituted or interrupted with a cyclic C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl or cyclic C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene group or with a phenyl or phenylene group; and wherein the cyclic alkyl or cyclic alkylene group or the phenyl or phenylene group is further substituted by 0, 1, 2, or 3 methyl groups;--

**Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 23-27, with the following replacement paragraph:**

--c) R<sub>1</sub> is selected from linear, branched or cyclic C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>9</sub>-alkyl group, wherein the linear or branched alkyl group may be substituted or interrupted with a cyclic C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl or cyclic C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene group or with a phenyl or phenylene group; and wherein the cyclic alkyl or cyclic alkylene group or the phenyl or phenylene group is further substituted by 0, 1, 2, or 3 methyl groups; --

**Please replace the paragraph spanning page 5, line 29- page 6, line 3, with the following replacement paragraph:**

--d) R<sub>1</sub> is selected from linear, branched or cyclic C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl group wherein the linear or branched alkyl group may be substituted or interrupted with a cyclic C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl or cyclic C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene group or with a phenyl or phenylene group; and wherein the cyclic alkyl or cyclic alkylene group or the phenyl or phenylene group is further substituted by 0, 1, 2, or 3 methyl groups;--

**Please replace the paragraph at page 6, lines 5-9, with the following replacement paragraph:**

--e) R<sub>1</sub> is selected from linear, branched or cyclic C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl group wherein the linear or branched alkyl group may be substituted or interrupted with a cyclic C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl or cyclic C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene group or with a phenyl or phenylene group; and wherein the cyclic alkyl or cyclic alkylene group or the phenyl or phenylene group is further substituted by 0, 1, 2, or 3 methyl groups;--

**Please replace the paragraph at page 6, lines 11-15, with the following replacement paragraph:**

--f)  $R_1$  is selected from linear, branched or cyclic  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl group wherein the linear or branched alkyl group may be substituted or interrupted with a cyclic  $C_3$ - $C_5$ -alkyl or cyclic  $C_3$ - $C_5$  alkylene group or with a phenyl or phenylene group; and wherein the cyclic alkyl or cyclic alkylene group or the phenyl or phenylene group is further substituted by 0, 1, 2, or 3 methyl groups;--

**Please replace the paragraph at page 6, lines 17-20, with the following replacement paragraph:**

--g)  $R_1$  is selected from linear, branched or cyclic  $C_4$ -alkyl group wherein the linear or branched alkyl group may be substituted or interrupted with a cyclic  $C_3$ -alkyl or cyclic  $C_3$ -alkylene group; and wherein the cyclic alkyl or cyclic alkylene group is further substituted by 0, 1, 2, or 3 methyl groups.--

**Please replace the Abstract with the following replacement Abstract.**

--The present invention relates to new salts of omeprazole and esomeprazole respectively, i.e. salts of 5-methoxy-2-[[[(4-methoxy-3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridinyl)-methyl]sulfinyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole and the (*S*)-enantiomer thereof. More specifically, the present invention relates to ~~[alkylammoniumsalt]~~ alkylammonium salts of the compounds, formed by a reaction of omeprazole and esomeprazole respectively and an alkylamine with formula ~~[NR<sup>21</sup>#191R<sup>22</sup>#191R<sup>23</sup>#191]~~ NR<sub>1</sub>R<sub>2</sub>R<sub>3</sub>, wherein ~~[R<sup>21</sup>#191]~~ R<sub>1</sub> is a linear, branched, or cyclic ~~[C<sup>21</sup>#191-C<sup>22</sup>#191]~~ C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl group, ~~[R<sup>22</sup>#191 and R<sup>23</sup>#191]~~ and R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are hydrogen. The present invention also relates to a process for preparing crystalline salts, a pharmaceutical preparation, and a method for treatment of gastric related disorders by administering the compound of the invention.--